

Samuel May Jr.

Leicester, June 28 / 57.

Dear W. May;

I have been thinking daily, for ten days past, of writing to you. — But I have so much business correspondence and other necessary writing to do, that the writing of letters to friends is a much rarer thing with me than it used to be. — I keep track of you all I can, and always with interest. As you didn't come to New York in May, I was glad you went to Alton, and that some good fruit appeared of your going there. But I much regretted to perceive that you were afflicted with some illness on yr. way thither. — I had a short glimpse of John Edward yesterday. — just as the Express train stopped a moment or two at Worcester.

We told me that you were at the Glen Haven Water cure, with Joe; — and that you were intending to be here, with him, at Commencement.

It would seem really cruel to object to <sup>Joe's</sup> ~~his~~ having that pleasure; but I pray that he will make his visit to Cambridge a short one, on that day, and get away before the inevitable action of mind & spirit shall exhaust his bodily strength. —

What I particularly have to say is that my wife and I are meditating a little tour, which has been designed to include Syracuse and a little visit to you all, and perhaps (if agreeable, & really any help to you) a Sunday's preaching. Our plan has been to leave here July 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> — reach Syracuse in the course of Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>, and spend

Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> with you & your family. But John Edward thought your visit to Cambridge would render it necessary that you should leave home before Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup>; in which case we could <sup>perhaps</sup> ~~probably~~ so time and order ~~the~~ our arrangements as to take Syracuse on our return.

We of course wish to have you at home whenever we do visit Syracuse.

- Will you, dear Sir, have the kindness to drop me a few lines, to Leicester, (and as soon as convenient) saying what your arrangements for Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> are; - that we may govern our movements with respect to Syracuse.

My wife has been very poorly indeed this spring. All through May, she was scarcely able to leave her room, - & for a number of days was wholly confined to her bed, - by the utter prostration consequent on a

severe turn

of dyspepsia. For some 2 weeks past she has been gaining fast; and I have hoped that a little journey <sup>will</sup> ~~would~~ quite set her up. — We have all felt a ~~very~~ lively sympathy with you & Cousin Lucretia & all your family, & especially with Charlotte, in your great loss and affliction. — Such trials are exceedingly hard to bear. Charlotte appears to have met her early and severe affliction in a noble spirit, — which I trust will be richly blessed to her in more than mortal strength, and in such faith and vision as shall greatly console her.

Our best love to all your family to Joseph, and of course to yourself. I direct this, at John Edwards' advice, to Glen Haven. —  
Sincerely yours  
Sam'l May Jr.

ms. A.6.1.67